

Bomb explodes near Israeli patrol

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — A bomb exploded near the Israeli military governor's headquarters in this southern Lebanese port Wednesday while an Israeli patrol was passing along the main road, security sources said. They said the explosion caused damage but no casualties. The Israelis arrested three people and set up check points along the road to search vehicles. It was the latest in a series of attacks against Israeli forces which invaded Lebanon last year. Responsibility for most of the attacks has been claimed by the "Lebanese National Resistance Front." An Israeli ministry spokesman had no immediate comment on the incident.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورنال التيمس الاردنية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الراي"

Serials

Volume 8 Number 2317

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY JULY 21-22, 1983 — SHAWWAL 11-12, 1403

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Bomb defused outside Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — An Israeli police engineer Wednesday defused a bomb planted in the Attarot suburb north of Jerusalem, Israel Radio reported. The device was found near a warehouse in an industrial zone on the Jerusalem-Ramallah highway.

Israelis hold murder suspect

TEL AVIV (R) — Police Wednesday said they were holding a suspect in connection with the death of a demonstrator outside the prime minister's office in occupied Jerusalem last February. A Jerusalem district court ruled there was sufficient evidence against the suspect, arrested two days ago, for police to detain him for 110 more days while investigations continued. The suspect was charged with illegal possession of arms and explosive materials, police said.

Algerian minister to visit Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi is due here Wednesday for an official visit to Tunisia, a Foreign Ministry statement said. The visit, at the invitation of Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caïd Essebsi, will take place immediately after Mr. Essebsi's return from Libya where he attended a meeting of the joint Libyan-Tunisian cooperation commission.

Court annuls disputed election in Rabat

RABAT (R) — A Moroccan court Wednesday annulled the election of 22 members of a Rabat municipal council because of irregularities at the polls, defence lawyers said. The court made void the election of 11 members of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces, the main opposition party, eight of the Constitutional Union (U.C.) and three of the Istiqlali Party — both part of the coalition government. The court ruled that scrutineers at several polling stations had been improperly selected.

China to discuss IAEA membership

BEIJING (R) — China will discuss joining the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) when IAEA chief Hans Blix visits Peking next month, the China News Service said Wednesday. The Vienna-based IAEA was established in 1957 to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy and prevent diversion of nuclear material for military purposes.

India buys 12 anti-sub helicopters

NEW DELHI (R) — India has signed contracts for the purchase of anti-submarine helicopters and missiles from Britain, Defence Minister Ramakrishna Venkatarman told a parliamentary committee Wednesday. The United News of India (UNI) news agency said Britain would supply 12 Sea King helicopters equipped with air-to-surface missiles and India would have the option to buy eight more. Mr. Venkatarman said the contracts were signed in New Delhi Tuesday with Sea King's manufacturers, Westland Helicopters, and with British Aerospace.

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Israel cabinet okays partial withdrawal

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli government formally decided Wednesday to go ahead with its plan to redeploy Israeli troops along a new defence line in South Lebanon, a cabinet spokesman said.

Israeli officials have for weeks referred to the decision to redeploy as a foregone conclusion. They said it had become necessary in the light of Syria's refusal to agree to the simultaneous withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The plan — drawn up by the army and approved unanimously by the cabinet — calls for Israeli troops to pull out of the Beirut area and the Shouf mountains, where rival Druze and predominantly Christian rightist militias are fighting each other, to new positions along the Awali River, north of Sidon.

Senior army officers said the redeployment would be conducted in stages and completed by November before the onset of the Lebanese winter.

The government has been under heavy domestic pressure to reduce Israeli casualties in Lebanon. Over 500 soldiers have been killed since the Israeli invasion 13 months ago, 150 of them since heavy fighting ended last September.

Israeli officials said last week they were holding intensive talks with the Lebanese government to persuade it that Israel did not see redeployment as leading to the permanent partition of Lebanon.

Lebanese problems

Army officers said they did not underestimate the difficulties the Lebanese army would face moving into the Shouf.

Lebanese officials said last week they were holding intensive talks with the Lebanese government to persuade it that Israel did not see redeployment as leading to the permanent partition of Lebanon.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes reiterated that U.S. policy calls for total withdrawal of all foreign forces "in a way that preserves stability and avoids violence."

He said the United States would look closely at the Israeli plan to see if it advanced those principles.

Mr. Salem said: "After eight years of war and destruction, Lebanon is in no mood to talk about an army withdrawal of one or two kilometres (because) we are talking about the life of the nation and the survival of democracy."

"We are not interested in mer-

A Lebanese military patrol tried last week to enter the Shouf town of Alei but was forced to withdraw after suffering casualties in a fierce battle with Druze militiamen.

"We will try to make it as easy as we can for them by pulling out of small areas that they can take over slowly," one officer said.

As for the four countries whose troops make up the multi-national force — the U.S., France, Italy and Britain — only the French have indicated they might be willing to send soldiers to the Shouf, where they would have the tough task of keeping the warring factions apart.

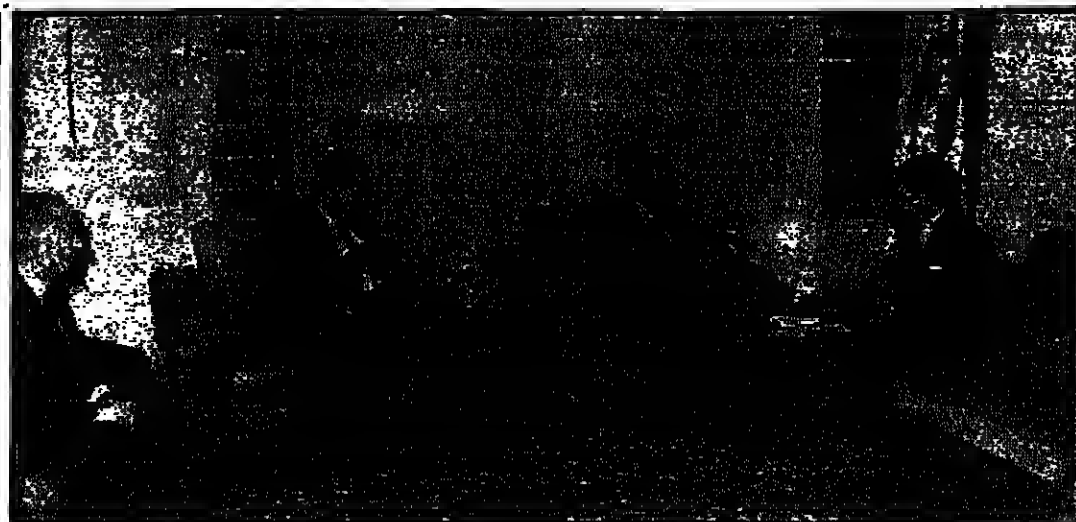
The army's plan envisages Israel holding on to its two main strategic assets in Lebanon — its positions facing the Syrians in the Bekaa Valley and an intelligence monitoring station on Mount Barouk.

'Trump card'

Israeli troops in the Bekaa are less than 25 kilometres from Damascus. One officer called this "our trump card," adding that if there was any chance of forcing the Syrians out of Lebanon, it lay in the fact that Damascus is in easy range of Israeli artillery.

From Mount Barouk Israel is not only able to monitor Syrian troop movements but its positions provide some control over the vital Beirut-Damascus highway.

Israeli officials still claim Israel ideally would like to see implementation of the agreement it signed with Lebanon last May providing for the total withdrawal of Israeli troops. But Syria's opposition has effectively sabotaged the accord.



His Highness Prince Abdullah, the Regent, Wednesday receives Indian special envoy Romesh Bhandari, (second from right) at the Royal Hashemite Court. Acting Prime Minister and Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh (third from right) and Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi are also attending.

Non-aligned emissary delivers message to Regent Indian envoy exchanges views with Jordan on Middle East

By Affiah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Special Indian envoy Romesh Bhandari Wednesday delivered to His Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the Regent, a message from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to His Majesty King Hussein dealing with the task of an eight-member non-aligned committee on Palestine.

During the audience at the Royal Court the Indian envoy was briefed on Jordan's assessment of the Palestinian situation and the developments of the Palestine problem, the central issue of the whole Middle East crisis, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The agency said that Mr. Bhandari also listened to Jordanian views on the committee's mission and Jordan stressed the importance of reactivating peace efforts aimed at finding a just, durable and comprehensive solution to the Palestine problem which will guarantee a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and safeguard the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, Petra said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Bhandari stressed that Jordan is a "vital element for the whole peace process, being the country which is mostly directly affected."

Mr. Bhandari, who had visited Syria, Libya and Tunisia a few days before, is on a tour of Middle East countries as an emissary of Mr. Gandhi, the current chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Mr. Bhandari's tour comes within the framework of an eight-member committee constituted at the seventh non-aligned summit in March 1983, to seek a solution to the Palestinian issue.

"The main objective of the tour is to hold consultations, regarding the evolving situation in the Middle East," Mr. Bhandari said.

Mr. Bhandari pointed out that the eight-member non-aligned committee has not so far met because Mrs. Gandhi is "first of all keen to know the views and assessments of the main Middle Eastern countries regarding the Palestinian issue."

He said that it is essential for the committee to first of all have a "clearer and more detailed understanding on the situation" in the Middle East from different Arab capitals.

In that context, he added, "it is also to determine what possibly the non-aligned committee may be able to do."

Jordan and India have "identical views on the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians," Mr. Bhandari said.

On Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories, Mr. Bhandari said, "It only hampers peace efforts and can only make the solution to the problem more difficult."

On Lebanon, the Indian envoy said that Israel should unconditionally withdraw from that

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Israel may reconsider F-16 purchases

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens wants the cabinet to reconsider its decision to buy 75 U.S.-made F-16 fighter planes, Israel Radio reported Wednesday. The report said the defence minister appeared to favour buying fewer of the sophisticated aircraft because of their cost. The 75 planes together are priced at about \$3 billion. Their sale was delayed by President Reagan after Israel's invasion of Lebanon last year, increasing the price, the radio said. The Israeli treasury has been pressing for large budget cuts, including defence spending, which accounts for almost one third of Israel's national expenditures. Since taking over the defence portfolio in February, Mr. Arens has pressed ahead with plans for Israel to build its own Lavie fighter plane.

Hassan urges Europe to refocus attention on occupied territories

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called on Europe and the Western world to refocus their attention on the Israeli-occupied territories and the situation there.

In an interview with the Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) held in Brussels and published in this week's MEED issue, the Crown Prince said that the rebellion in Fatah, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) biggest commando movement, has diverted world attention from the real issue of the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories.

Prince Hassan, who was in the Belgian capital July 7-11 for talks with officials of the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Belgian government, urged EEC member states to take part in a conference on Palestine due to be held in Geneva in August.

The EEC countries except for Greece and France are likely to boycott the conference, Prince Hassan commented that the conference is urgently needed. It had taken place a year ago this would have been better, he said.

On the question of possible negotiations between Jordan and Israel and the role of the PLO in a peace settlement, Prince Hassan said, "there is a movement in the PLO to throw away any political solution. We have to see what the PLO becomes in the coming weeks. Will it really have a Palestinian face?"

Prince Hassan and Belgian External Relations Minister Leo Tindemans expressed their concern in a joint press statement at the deterioration in the prospects for peace in the Middle East. They also expressed concern at the difficulties encountered in attempts to assist the Palestinian people under occupation.

The Belgian government announced that it will set up an embassy in Amman this autumn as Jordan is becoming an increasingly important factor in the Middle East.

(Continued on page 3)

Iranian oil installations remain targets, Iraq says

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Wednesday Iraq's air force and navy would continue to hit Iranian oil and industrial installations in the Gulf war and admitted Iraq was using French-made Exocet missiles.

"Iraq is determined to threaten Iranian petroleum and economic interests in the Gulf," Mr. Aziz told local and foreign journalists here during a three-hour news conference.

Asked if French air-to-surface Exocet missiles were being used, the foreign minister said: "The French missiles have been used since the beginning of the war and are still used against Iranian targets."

"Iraq's possession of these missiles was part of its armament before they were used in the Falklands war (between Argentina and Britain)," he said.

Defence sources in Paris earlier said Iraq had been using helicopter-mounted Exocets supplied by France in 1974. The Paris newspaper Le Monde said last month France had agreed to lend Iraq five Super-Étendard jets equipped with the missiles.

The Iraqi foreign minister told Wednesday's news conference Iranian installations would remain targets for Iraqi bombs so long as Iran hampered the free flow of oil from the Gulf.

He said Iran had destroyed huge parts of Iraq's oil installations in the Gulf since the war started nearly three years ago. Iran had forced a military siege that hampered the export of oil from the south, hence Iraq must act in the same way and inflict harm to the Iranian oil installations at any level," he added.

Mr. Aziz was asked about the danger of mines planted in the Gulf following mine warnings of the Saudi Arabian coast from the U.S. Defence Mapping Agency which regularly issues reports to mariners.

He said in reply he had no precise or official information about such mines.

"But I suppose mines exist in the (war) zone, planned by both sides, and probably some of them drifted due to atmospheric or water current conditions to those areas," he added.

Kuwait wants amendment to GCC security accord

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's interior minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Jaber, was quoted Wednesday as saying his country had finalised amendments to a joint security agreement for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

He was quoted by Kuwaiti newspapers as saying Kuwait, which has so far blocked ratification of the agreement, had included a number of amendments which it thought "necessary and suitable."

He did not elaborate.

Sheikh Nawaf was quoted as saying the new draft accord would be presented to the GCC interior ministers' meeting to be held in Qatar on October.

The council groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman.

Informed sources have said the Kuwaiti government was unhappy about a clause allowing security forces to pursue suspects 20 kilometres into the territory of a neighbouring state.

Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah told parliament in December that Kuwait refused to sign because the pact would "violate the country's sovereignty and constitution."

The council established in May 1981, has reached a number of other agreements between members covering cooperation in such fields as economics, finance, trade, customs and agriculture.

State intends not to lose possession of an instrument of propaganda like the detainee Ali Agca.

Agca had been moved out of solitary confinement and promised improved conditions, it added.

Pope John Paul, at a general audience in Saint Peter's Square, Wednesday led the crowds in a prayer for Emanuela. It was the pontiff's fourth public reference to her since she vanished after attending a music school class in central Rome.

The Vatican has been deeply involved in the case, but a spokesman Wednesday for the second day pointed to the Holy See's powerlessness. The Pope had given Agca a Christian pardon but it was the Italian state which had sentenced him to life imprisonment, he said.

Reagan lobbies for MX

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan lobbied Wednesday for approval of his MX missiles in the House of Representatives and House Speaker Thomas (Tip) O'Neill said the line up so far favoured the new nuclear weapon.

The crucial vote was expected Wednesday night or Thursday.

The Senate was likely to approve Mr. Reagan's request for \$2.6 billion in production funds to deploy 100 MX missiles but opponents hoped to defeat the proposal in the house and then reach a compromise in Congress restricting MX production.

Mr. O'Neill said house opponents were still eight short of the 214 votes necessary to defeat the MX money and acknowledged it would be difficult to win over more members.

But house Democratic leader Jim Wright of Texas announced he would vote against the MX and White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Reagan aides believed the vote was even closer than Mr. O'Neill thought.

Mr. Speakes told reporters Mr. Reagan was telephoning wavering house members for their support in a final drive to win house approval.

Mr. Reagan sent 275 house members a letter Tuesday night saying house approval had special significance "in terms of speaking with one bipartisan voice, of standing up for U.S. vital interests."

He said the MX was a "lever that is working... to keep the Soviets moving at the negotiation tables."

But Mr. Wright called President Reagan's defence buildup "the biggest military spending spree in our peacetime history."

Vatican kidnappers say girl still alive

ROME (R) — Men claiming to have kidnapped a 15-year-old schoolgirl said Wednesday she was still alive as their deadline ticked away for the Italian government to save her life by releasing the Turk who shot the Pope two years ago.

In the past two weeks anonymous telephone callers have said Emanuela Orlandi, a Vatican employee's daughter who disappeared in Rome on June 22, would be killed unless gunman Mehmet Ali Agca was freed by Wednesday.

A man who telephoned the Italian news agency ANSA shortly before noon Wednesday said she was still alive but that the deadline was set for midnight Wednesday, the agency reported.

It said this was the caller's explanation of an obscure phrase in a message for ANSA telephoned earlier in the day to a Rome church. The man called the agency to check it had received the message.

The phrase said: "Reaching the suppression of July 20 we do not lose hope in the will of those who can carry out a final and resolving gesture."

This suggested the kidnappers hoped the Italian government might still release Agca, who tried to kill the Pope in 1981.

But ANSA said the caller implied that the word "suppression" was intended as a threat that would be carried out when the deadline expired. He also said there would be no further messages before then.

Wednesday's message, couched in the same clumsy Italian as previous statements, began: "The government of the Italian republic with the blessing of the Vatican

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Habre's forces clash with rebels in Fada

N'DJAMENA (R) — Chadian forces clashed with anti-government rebels at the northeastern outpost of Fada Wednesday to break a week-long lull in the civil war, Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila said.

But he told reporters that the engagement was "not very violent" and gave no indication of the outcome.

Skirmishing outside Fada, a sub-prefecture in the Ennedi region, apparently began Tuesday between retreating rebel columns and the government forces pursuing them.

According to Wednesday's report the combat has now reached the isolated town, which lies in a mountain range about 900 kilometres northeast of the capital.

Analysis had speculated earlier that former President Goukouni Oueddei would prefer to evacuate his Libyan-backed rebels from Fada rather than stage a pitched battle there, in view of the locality's scant strategic importance.

His main stronghold, and one which he cannot afford to lose, is Faya-Largeau, the desert oasis 270 kilometres west of Fada which he captured from President Hissene Habre's army on June 24.

Mr. Goukouni's rapid advance south-east was checked 111 days ago and the government has been in control of the eastern region for the past week with no reports of serious clashes.

The lull, and Wednesday's attack on Fada, have led to widespread anticipation of a full-scale government push against Faya-Largeau, Mr. Habre's birthplace.

Official Chadian sources registered satisfaction Wednesday with Tuesday's announcement from Washington that the United States was supplying \$111 million worth of military and food aid.

The airlift, which is expected to begin within the next few days, is a clear gesture of support for Mr. Habre's government and is being interpreted here as another warning to Libya.

'French mercenaries'
ABIDJAN (R) — A top rebel field commander has charged that France had supplied mercenaries to Chadian President Hissene Habre, Colonel Radio monitored here said.

Colonel Radio, commander in ousted Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's rebel army, told reporters Tuesday in Cotonou, Benin. "We know that France has sent mercenaries to Chad, claiming that they are civilians".

France has supplied tons of military supplies, including some

sophisticated weaponry, to help Mr. Habre's ill-equipped army beat back a Libyan-backed rebel offensive. But it has turned down repeated requests for troops although it is reported to have sent in civilian technicians for the maintenance of some of the weapons.

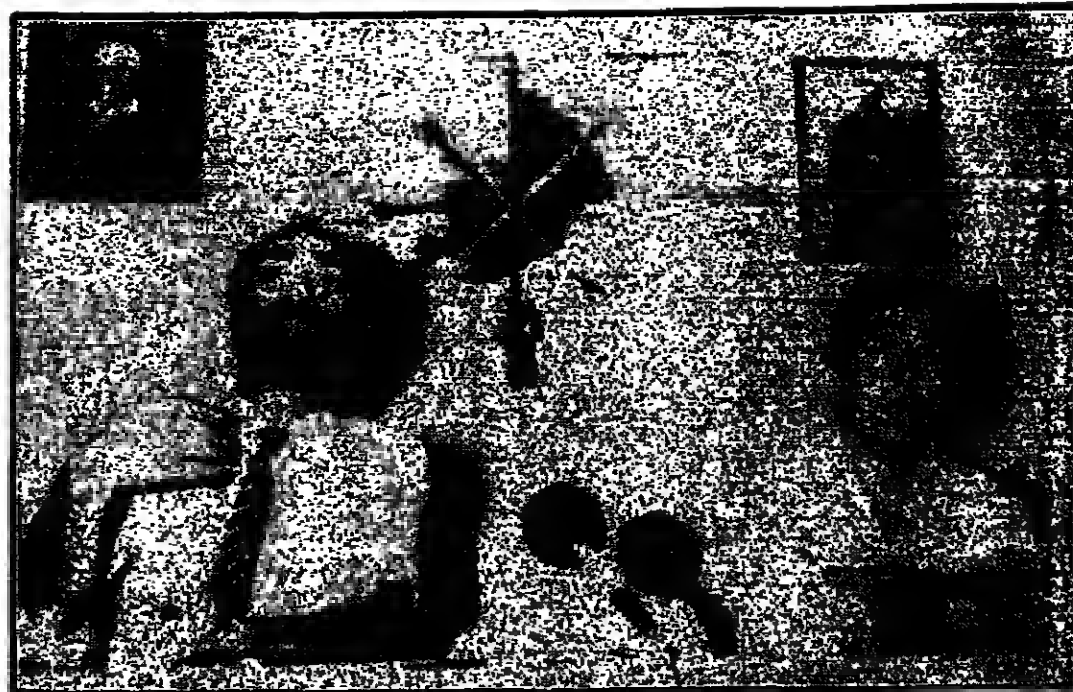
Cotonou Radio quoted Col. Kamougue as saying that the French mercenaries belonged to the Bordeaux-based Third Moroccan Infantry Regiment.

The Chadian government Tuesday denied it had hired mercenaries and described armed white men in military uniforms spotted in eastern Chad as unpaid, personal friends personally attached to the Chadian cause.

Col. Kamougue held talks with Benin's Marxist President Mathieu Kerekou, who supports Mr. Oueddei. He had previously visited Congo as part of a diplomatic offensive on behalf of his leader, who was ousted by Mr. Habre 13 months ago.

He told journalists the rebel army had men in sufficient numbers but needed more logistical support.

Col. Kamougue was to fly in Lagos Wednesday for talks with Nigerian government officials. In Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian foreign ministry in a statement expressed concern over reports that the United States was helping in the airlift of arms and military personnel to Chad.



ARMENIAN SOCIALISTS TALK: Armenian representative of the Socialist Dashnak Party Revolutionary Federation Henri Papazian, left, gestures Monday while answering newsmen during a

press conference held in Paris with the Armenian Cause Defence Committee representative Ara Krikorian, right, during which the Orly bombing was severely condemned. (A.P. wirephoto)

Armenian congress to start today

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — The second World Armenian Congress opens here Thursday only days after Armenian guerrillas launched a bomb attack in Paris, killing six people and wounding about 60.

About 200 participants are expected at the meeting, which aims at creating an internationally-recognised organisation for the scattered Armenian communities around the world.

The Lausanne meeting is expected to press for recognition by governments and the United Nations of what it calls Armenians'

inalienable rights of the past, present and future.

It also wants to reclaim the Armenian traditional homeland in eastern Turkey, but Turkey strongly opposes any challenge to its geographical integrity.

Responsibility for last Friday's bomb attack at the Turkish Airlines desk in Paris' Orly airport was claimed by Armenian — the Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA). It came only a day after the murder in Brussels of a Turkish diplomat, claimed by the same group.

The organiser of the congress, who condemned the Paris killing

as "a shocking, terrible act carried out by desperadoes", said he feared the meeting could be disrupted by Armenian guerrillas.

"We are very nervous at the moment. But precautions have been taken and we hope the congress will be carried out without any disturbances from within or outside," Father James Karnusian told Reuters.

Turkey has hinted it would retaliate for the Paris blast claimed by ASALA, one of two main Armenian guerrilla groups which have killed more than 31 people, mostly Turks, in a decade-long campaign of violence.

Paris arrests alleged Orly attacker

PARIS (R) — The French government said Wednesday a 29-year-old Armenian activist was responsible for last Friday's bomb attack at Orly Airport which killed six people and wounded 56 others.

Government spokesman Max Gallo said Syrian-born Varadjan Garbidjan, a member of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), was among 56 activists arrested by police after the bomb attack.

He had appeared before an examining magistrate Wednesday

morning after making a confession Tuesday night, Mr. Gallo said.

News of his arrest came as security for Air France planes and offices and government installations was stepped up following a threat by an anonymous caller to a French news agency Tuesday saying further attacks by ASALA were possible.

Justice ministry sources said 11 of the Armenian activists rounded up after the bombing were appearing before an examining mag-

istrate at Creteil, near Orly, Wednesday.

London bomb link

LONDON (R) — A bomb found in London last Friday may be linked to the blast which killed six people at Orly airport in Paris the same day, police sources said Tuesday night.

A spokesman for the city of London police said: "We are in contact with Paris police to see if there are any similarities between the two bombs."

6 members of Iraqi family said executed

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Wednesday six members of a prominent Shiite family in Iraq had been executed and other family members arrested because they were guilty of high treason due to connections with Iran.

A member of the family, dissident cleric Muhammad Baqir Makin, disclosed the executions last month at a Friday prayer meeting in Tehran, where he is spokesman for the "supreme assembly" for the Islamic revolution in Iran.

Tehran backs Damascus on Lebanon troops issue

DAMASCUS (R) — Iran has reiterated its support for Syria in its opposition to the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal accord, the official Syrian news agency reported Tuesday night.

It said the Iranian leaders told Farouq Al-Shar, Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, that Iran supported Syria in "confronting the American and Zionist onslaught and the Israeli-Lebanese agreement".

Syria condemned the U.S.-sponsored troop withdrawal agreement as it endangered Syrian

security, the agency said.

Assembly reports to Khomeini

TEHRAN (R) — An assembly of Iranian religious experts, formed to choose a successor to revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini when he dies, reported Tuesday on its first series of meetings to the ayatollah himself.

Tehran radio said the report was presented by the assembly's chairman, Ayatollah Ali Vaezkhani, when the group met Khomeini at the mosque where he lives in north Tehran.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
16:30 Koran
16:30 Cartoon
17:10 Famous People
17:45 Children's Programme
18:20 Walt Disney
19:10 Programmes Review
19:20 Local Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
21:00 Arabic Series
22:00 Arabic Play
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Arabic Play Com.

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Three's Company
21:10 Knots Landing
22:00 News in English
22:15 Movie of the Week: "Destiny of a Spy"

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM
A party on 95.60 KHz. SW
07:10 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Pop Session
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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS
FILM
"Norma Rae" at the American Centre at 8:00 p.m. Thursday.
"Private Lives" by Noel Coward, at the British Council Thursday and Friday 8:00 p.m.
PLAY
"Private Lives" by Noel Coward, at the British Council Thursday and Friday 8:00 p.m.
CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 66112/7
American Centre 44371
British Council 44371
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
French Cultural Centre 39777
Soviet Cultural Centre 44371
Spanish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 66115
Husseini Youth City 66111
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 66111
Amman Museum Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 34355

MUSEUMS
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash 14th to 18th centuries. The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 31128.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, carvings, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munzarah. Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 31128.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City. Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664241.

PRAYER TIMES
06:36 Fajr
06:43 Sunrise
11:42 Dhuhur
11:43 Asr
18:40 Maghreb
20:18 Isha

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
18:00 Koran
19:00 Children's Programme
19:40 Popeye
20:30 Programme on Sports & Space
21:10 Religious Programme
22:00 Target... The Impossible
22:30 Local Play
23:00 Harper Valley
23:30 Hawaii Five-0
23:50 Chis Holmes
24:00 Religious Programme
24:10 News in Arabic
24:30 Arabic Series

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme (feature film)
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Tales of the Unexpected
21:10 King's Royal
22:00 News in English
22:15 Falcon Crest

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM
A party on 95.60 KHz. SW
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BBC WORLD SERVICE
630, 720, 1413 KHz
06:00 News
06:05 Country Style
06:10 News
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06:25 News
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Alfa Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09) 53250, where it should always be verified.
ARRIVALS
06:30 Belgrade (YU)
06:35 Cairo (EG)
06:40 Tripoli (LI)
06:45 Cairo (EG)
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HOME NEWS

Jordan has very high proportion of students, ministry study says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nearly 35 per cent of Jordan's 2.15 million population are students at schools, community colleges and universities, the Education Ministry's Secretary General Abdul Latif Arabiyat said Tuesday. He said there are nearly 850,000 students in Jordan, which is among the highest rates in the world.

Speaking in a panel discussion broadcast by Radio Jordan Tuesday, Dr. Arabiyat said that the ministry of education will this year reduce the number of academic students by 30 per cent and increase vocational training.

This step is also necessary to coordinate the channelling of students to university education, especially to medical and engineering sciences, because of the big number of students studying these subjects here and abroad, Dr. Arabiyat said.

He added that the ministry will drastically reduce the number of scholarships in medicine because there is already a great number of doctors in Jordan.

Secondary school students in Jordan last year numbered 100,000 and this year the number is expected to reach 119,000, but academic students in the country constitute 90 per cent of the total number of Jordanian students, Dr. Arabiyat said.

Too many doctors

Dr. Hassan Khreis, president of the Jordanian Medical Association who took part in the discussion said that the past three years witnessed an enormous increase in the number of physicians in the country. There were 4,365 registered doctors, of whom 548 now work in the occupied West

Bank; 2409 work in the East Bank while the rest work abroad, Dr. Khreis said.

He said the presence of such a large number of doctors in Jordan calls for a re-examination of medical education in the country since many of the newly graduated doctors are unemployed.

Despite the great number of doctors in Jordan there is a shortage in the number of specialists in fields such as forensic medicine, sports medicine, occupational health, contagious diseases, rheumatism, gynaecology, malnutrition and paediatrics, Dr. Khreis said.

With reference to Jordanians studying abroad, Dr. Khreis said there are about 61,000 of them of whom 8,000 study medicine in addition to the 550 medical students in Jordan.

Regent leads King Abdullah's anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — Wednesday marked the 32nd anniversary of the death of King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the grandfather of His Majesty King Hussein.

On the anniversary, His Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the Regent, accompanied by several members of the royal family, visited the late King's tomb where he recited verses from the Holy Koran and laid a wreath. Prince Abdullah was also accompanied by Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khamash and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

Also visiting the tomb Wednesday were: Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh, cabinet members, speaker of the Senate Ahmad Al Tarawneh, the deputy speaker of the National Consultative Council (NCC), council members, the Islamic chief justice, the Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb, senior army officers, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh, and the directors of public security, intelligence and civil defence.

Other visitors included the commander and senior officers of the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Brigade who made speeches on the anniversary pledging to remain faithful to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and the Hashemite Family.

Jordan, Spain sign culture pact



The Ministry of Education's Secretary-General Abdul Latif Arabiyat, (third from right) and the Spanish ambassador to Jordan, Luis de Pedrosa

(third from left) sign a bilateral cultural exchange agreement in Amman (Petra photo)

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Spain Wednesday signed an agreement on the implementation of a bilateral cultural accord signed in 1971.

Under the agreement, which will be effective until 1986, both countries undertake to encourage cooperation between Jordanian and Spanish cultural institutions.

Spain will grant Jordan 12 scholarships annually for Spanish students to study at Jordanian universities. Both countries will encourage and arrange the exchange of visits by educational specialists, as well as exchanges of university professors and scholars to conduct research in Arabic and Islamic studies, and the exchange of publications on scientific, educational and cultural affairs.

Both countries will also undertake to encourage exhibitions and the exchange of visits by artists, writers and cultural delegations.

Also agreed upon is the cooperation in archaeological excavations in Jordan. Spanish archaeological team will be offered facilities for conducting digs at the ancient Citadel in Amman, Al Qasr Mosque and palace along the Desert Highway; and they will be expected to assist in the restoration of the Roman city of Jerash in addition to conducting repair work on the frescoes found in Amra castle, Petra and Al Baida.

The Jordanian and Spanish antiquities departments will also cooperate in publishing reports on these archaeological digs, in Arabic and Spanish.

Also included in this cultural agenda is the cooperation in the information field, by exchanging publications, radio and television material and visits by information officials. They will also cooperate in sports fields and facilitate bilateral visits to Jordan and Spain by athletes from both countries.

The agreement was signed by the Ministry of Education's Secretary-General Abdul Latif Arabiyat and Spain's ambassador to Jordan Luis De Pedrosa.

Zarqa site for defence centre

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department (CDD), the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) will cooperate to set up a civil defence centre at the industrial zone in Zarqa, under the terms of an agreement signed at the CDD Wednesday.

Under the agreement, the centre will be built half-way between the JPRC and the thermal power station in Zarqa on a 10-dunum plot of land assigned by the CDD and offered by the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The JEA and the JPRC will share the cost of establishing the centre by paying JD 50,000 each and if more funds are needed they will have to be raised from local factories, the agreement stipulates.

For its part, the CDD which will take charge of the operations of centre and will be supplying the necessary equipment.

According to the agreement, JPRC will organise the collection of funds and take charge of handling accounts, contractors and other parties that will be involved in the project, and will also pre-

pare the project's designs and announce the tender.

All three departments will soon set up a joint committee to evaluate the bids before awarding the project to the contractors.

At the signing ceremony, CDD Director Khaled Al Tarawneh said that the centre is "vital" for the great number of factories and industries in its neighbourhood. The cost of the project's designs will be nearly JD 7,000, he said.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Tarawneh, JEA Director Hisham Al Khabab and JPRC Director Sa'd Al Tal.

Prince urges Europe to refocus attention

(Continued from page 1)

reasingly key country in Middle East politics.

Belgium is also taking a keen interest in trade with Jordan, a high level trade mission led by Prince Albert visited Amman in May. The Belgian banks have extended a 2.5 million Belgian franc credit line for purchases of Belgian capital goods. Jordan has proved a good market for Belgian exporters overtaking more traditional markets such as Tunisia, Morocco and Syria in the last two years. Exports more than doubled from 1,600 million Belgian francs in 1981 to 3,800 million Belgian francs in 1982. Main items are textiles, chemicals, machinery, metal products, transport equipment and

musical instruments. Imports from Jordan are still small at 321 million Belgian francs in 1982, up from 360 million in 1981 and 134 million in 1979.

Prince Hassan also had talks with EEC Commission President Gaston Thorn on the political situation in the Middle East and EEC Development Commissioner Edgard Pisani regarding EEC-Jordan economic cooperation. A high-level Jordanian team including National Planning Council President Hanna Odeh, Agricultural Credit Corporation President Sami Sunna, Jordan Electricity Authority Director Hisham Khabab, University of Yarmouk President Adnan Badran and Industrial Development Bank Director Ziad Amab gave a progress report on Jordan's 1981-1985 development plan which has had to undergo some

modifications due to the fall in Arab aid and slackening of trade with Iraq.

Ambitious programme

Prince Hassan explained his goal of making Jordan a service and transit centre for the Middle East. Jordan would like to develop complementary economic activity to that of the EEC, providing medium and high technology industry and services and maintenance for European products sold to the Gulf region. In particular, Jordanian planners are looking to provide jobs for the new generation of graduates coming on the job market, he said. With the fall in oil revenues in the Arab oil countries employment opportunities there will be less in future, he added. Jordan traditionally has had to export many of its skilled workers.

Prince Hassan said Jordan wants more joint ventures and transfer of technology cooperation with the EEC. These areas already feature strongly in the EEC's aid programme for Jordan but the majority of aid credits so far have gone to energy infrastructure, he said. The EEC has helped set up the Engineering Faculty of the University of Jordan in Amman and the Science Faculty at the University of Yarmouk. It has also lent to the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) for joint venture promotion and to the IDB's small industries programme.

Thirty two million of the 44 mil-

lion European Currency Unit (ECU) aid package which came into effect on Jan. 1, 1983 has already been committed, EEC officials say. This involves a five million ECU European Investment Bank (EIB) loan to IDB and an EEC soft loan of 1.5 million ECU to the small industries programme. A loan agreement for 6.5 million ECU was signed with the EIB during Prince Hassan's visit.

Credits for a tourism study were approved by the EEC recently and the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism is currently selecting the consultant. The five-month study will cover short and long term priorities for planning and marketing. This autumn the EEC expects to approve aid for a secondary school specialising in industrial skills.

India exchanges views

(Continued from page 1)

country, since it is a country (Israel) that came to Lebanon by force and which should not seek concessions or conditions which cannot be given."

With reference to other foreign troops in Lebanon Mr. Bhandari said that the presence of Syrian and the Palestinian troops "is different from the Israeli presence, for they came by agreement, whereas the Israelis are there by force."

Asked whether India has med-

iated between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Syria, or within the different factions within the PLO, Mr. Bhandari said that "we cannot be mediators amongst brothers, we have only been expressing our sincere desire and hope that these internal differences will be resolved and that Arab unity will prevail."

Mr. Bhandari emphasised that the differences within the PLO, and between the PLO and Syria especially at this critical stage will only damage the ultimate cause and objective.

On India's attitude towards the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. Bhandari pointed out that India is a "friend of both countries" and both countries are members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

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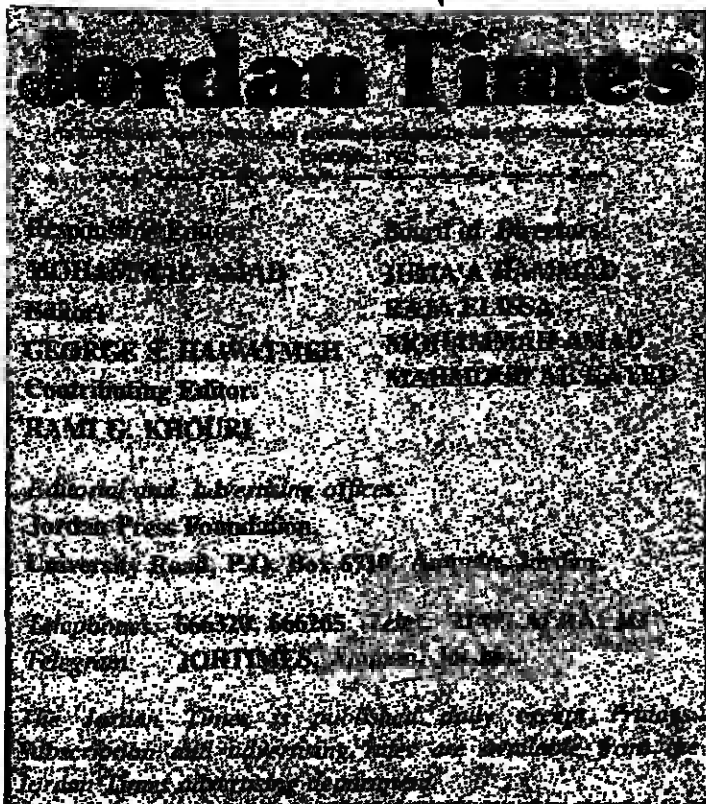
Last of food poisoning victims leave hospital
AMMAN (J.T.) — The last of the 51 people who were taken ill because of food poisoning earlier this week have now left Al Bashir hospital after treatment. Dr. Sulaiman Dub'ain, the director of the Health Ministry's basic health services said.
He said that a team of specialists has been set up to investigate the causes of food poisoning which occurred on Sunday and Monday at Al Talibiyah refugee camp.

Modernisation plan for Aqaba on the boards
AQABA (J.T.) — Ways for developing and modernising marine transport operations in the Gulf of Aqaba and improving the standard of services by the Aqaba port were discussed here Wednesday by the Jordanian Ports Corporation Board at a meeting chaired by Transport Minister Ali Suheimat.
The board members earlier made an inspection tour of the port's installations and were briefed on the operations going on there. They also visited the port storage yards and inspected storage procedures.
The minister is scheduled Thursday to inaugurate projects included in the ministry's current five-year development plan. These include a JD 22-million quay, built especially for loading phosphates and potash products, a dry dock which cost nearly JD 1.6 million and warehouses for storing potash products which cost JD 18 million.

3-week AWSA course starts
AMMAN (Petra) — A three-week training course on the maintenance and operation of pneumatic compressors at water pumping stations and wastewater treatment plants will open here Saturday.
The course will be held at the vocational centre of the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA) and will be attended by a team of AWSA technicians who will receive theoretical and practical training on pneumatic compressors and their function.
An AWSA spokesman said that the course is designed to improve the technicians' skills and impart to them more technical information on operating the compressors.
The course is bound to increase the team's range of capabilities and improve their level of performance, the spokesman said.

1st stage of water project to cost nearly JD 45m
AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) is currently implementing a water project in the Amman Governorate, the first stages of which will cost nearly JD 45 million, JVA Acting President Munzer Haddadin said.
He said in an interview with Jordan Television that the Amman and Balqa Governorates require nearly 160 million cubic metres of water and Irbid Governorate needs 41 million from now until the year 2000.
Underground water resources around Amman and Azraq, and the waters of Yarmouk River and Wadi Al Arab lake are sufficient for these needs until 1987 only.
But new projects will be implemented afterwards for drawing more water for Amman and Balqa governorates from the northern Jordan Valley region. Dr. Haddadin said.

School texts to be expanded
AMMAN (Petra) — Subjects dealing with environmental problems and ways of combating pollution will be included in Jordan's school textbooks according to a decision taken by the Educational Council here Wednesday.
The council, with Education Minister Sa'd Al Tal as chairman, said that these subjects will be included in science books for the compulsory and secondary stages.
A working paper on the subject has suggested teaching subjects related to pollution, desertification and the extinction of certain animal species.



The turning point

WHEN Israel implements its decision, taken by the Begin government on Wednesday, to withdraw its troops from Lebanon's Shouf mountains and south of the capital, it will be one of the few occasions on which Israel was forced to withdraw from occupied Arab territories under military pressure. This occasion would be unique in that it would be Arab resistance groups, rather than regular armies, who could and did snatch such an undeniable victory.

Unfortunately, though, the matter is not that simple. Israel would still possess the strength to turn its forced withdrawal from parts of Lebanese territory it now occupies into a permanent occupation of the South of Lebanon, which, given Israel's history, it would no doubt do. The Israeli decision to redeploy in Lebanon therefore presents the Arabs with a dilemma that is not easy to solve. But not only the Arabs would suffer.

The United States, with its avowed aim of removing all foreign forces from every inch of Lebanese territory, stands to lose a lot from a divided Lebanon. We have already seen how a reclusive Begin could bounce back, literally overnight, to tell the U.S. president that he is in no mood to visit and talk with him on complete withdrawals, and that in the end Israel does what it wants, regardless of U.S. wishes and interests.

Sure enough, Washington stands to lose morally and in credibility if it cannot convince Israel to leave Lebanon. But do Americans really care, especially when they can blame their failures on Syrian "rejectionism" and Arab "obstructionism"? If they do, the Americans should perhaps explain to us what went wrong with Israel for that state to take a unilateral decision to redeploy in Lebanon. The Lebanese president is currently in Washington, and he would listen for us. Short of that, should we Arabs continue to care for what the Americans think or say?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: No grounds for optimism

PRESIDENT AMIN Gemayel of Lebanon Tuesday expressed his optimism for a speedy withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon but he did not disclose the reasons behind this optimism. In fact there is a contradiction between this optimism and Israel's attitude over the last few days.

Two most significant aspects of Israel's attitude are Prime Minister Menachem Begin's sudden decision to postpone his visit to the United States to discuss with President Reagan the issue of troops withdrawal in Lebanon, and recent statements by Israeli officials about the imminent redeployment of Israeli forces inside Lebanon.

The Israeli attitude by no means indicates that Israel intends to withdraw its forces from Lebanon in the foreseeable future, at least. Begin has postponed his visit to the United States in order, to avoid sitting face to face with President Reagan to discuss the issue. The redeployment of Israeli forces in Lebanon can only stress this fact. The contradiction is therefore clear and there is no room for optimism. President Gemayel's mission in the United States is bound to be very sensitive and rather difficult.

The Israeli attitude has now placed on President Reagan the task of proving U.S. credibility through the handling of the Lebanese issue.

Al Dustour: Reflection of King's concern

KING HUSSEIN'S meeting with President Gemayel of Lebanon in southern France Monday evening reflects King Hussein's concern over ensuring Lebanon's unity and independence. It also displays Jordan's constructive national role to enable brother Lebanese to overcome the current crisis and confront the Israeli occupation.

No doubt the outcome of this meeting and King Hussein's efforts will contribute most effectively in putting an end to the fighting among Lebanese factions and unifying their efforts towards regaining their land that is now under Israeli occupation.

King Hussein's concern over the situation in Lebanon and his interest in preserving its sovereignty and territorial integrity were exhibited before the present Lebanese crisis. He has always believed in the importance of Lebanon in the eastern front and had been aware of the extent of damage that might be inflicted on the region if Lebanon was to be exposed to any Israeli aggression that might result in cutting off Lebanon from the rest of the Arab Nation.

During the Lebanon civil war and Israel's invasion of that country, King Hussein was prompt in rallying Arab leaders for stopping the bloodshed and ending the invasion.

Jordan's attitude vis-a-vis Lebanon stems from its well-known national principles of supporting any Arab state that might fall victim to any foreign aggression.

Sawt Al Shaab: Anniversary of a martyr

ON THE 32nd anniversary of King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein's death in Arab Jerusalem, Jordanians remember a great man who fell as a martyr in defence of Arab rights in Palestine. King Abdullah died as a martyr after struggling desperately to preserve the Arab Nation's unity in implementation of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt outlined by his father Al Hussein Ibn Ali.

King Abdullah who believed in the unity and freedom of the Arabs established the Jordanian Kingdom on a true basis of democracy which has served as the country's national constitution both for the ruler and the people.

Behind the 'Socialist' face of Assad's Syria

By Eric Rouleau

DAMASCUS — Ever since work began, three years ago, on the People's Palace, future headquarters of Syrian President Hafez Assad, ordinary Syrians have been scrupulously kept away from the site.

In a country where the government has always preferred to keep people in the dark, speculation naturally tends to run wild. It is rumoured that the building is not so much a palace as a formidable fortress, where the president and his entourage intend to entrench themselves, protected by armed troops, heavy artillery, and anti-aircraft guns. It is claimed that a system of underground passages and a heliport have been installed to provide escape routes in case of siege.

After a discreet visit to the site, I am able to correct that fanciful image. True, the People's Palace does not bear much resemblance to the Elysee, the White House or indeed the Kremlin. Nor would one expect it to, in view of the type of regime Syria enjoys, the powers President Assad has given himself, his character, and the fact that the country has been on a war footing for the last 35 years.

The whole design of the building, its architectural style, and its location reflect a military notion of government. The presidential complex, which consists of four buildings, is perched like an eagle on a strategically located spur. The view from the top, which overlooks the intersection of three main highways, one leading to Lebanon, another to the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, and a third to the airport, can only be described as breathtaking. When the president moves in, he will have the whole capital, Damascus, and its outskirts spread out before him.

One of the buildings, the least imposing of the four, will house Mr. Assad's private apartments, which are surprisingly modest in scale. Upstairs there are five small bedrooms (where he will live with his wife and children), some tiny bathrooms, a boudoir, a study and a gymnasium, all with bay windows. While on the ground floor there is a huge fountain-

filled patio surrounded by a drawing room, a dining area and several other rooms, two of which are designed for film projections and video shows.

The relative simplicity of Mr. Assad's living quarters contrasts strongly with the pharaonic splendour of the presidential palace itself. Both its enormous size and its design are in keeping with the Pan-Arab ambitions of the president, who first began his career as a Ba'ath Party militant in adolescence.

The visitor, after entering the building through a portal that would not disgrace a cathedral, walking past proud colonnades and climbing a monumental staircase, finds himself in a sumptuous complex of vast rooms intended for ceremonies, receptions, banquets (up to 1,000 guests), and shows (there is an amphitheatre); the offices of the president and his closest advisers are on the first floor. The decoration will, I was told, be a harmonious blend of functional design, Andalusian arabesques and traditional Syrian marquetrie.

The two other buildings demonstrate the breadth of the prerogatives enjoyed by Mr. Assad. One of them will house his special advisers, who are in charge of liaising with ministers. It will be used for meetings by the council of ministers, by the leaders of the Ba'ath Party and of the National Progressive Front (the coalition of parties theoretically in power in Syria), and, possibly by the army high command; all such meetings will of course be chaired by the "supreme head of the nation".

The fourth building making up the complex, which is being constructed on a nearby hill, is the "guests' palace". It is designed to accommodate up to four heads of state along with their suites. It hardly needs pointing out that foreign policy, too, is President Assad's prerogative.

There are no secret tunnels through which the occupants of the "fortress" may escape. But a concrete platform has been built to act as a heliport, and a shelter is planned for deep in the hillside — hardly surprising when you rem-

ember that the palace is within range of Israeli artillery only 20 kilometres away. There are also plans to demolish the notorious Mezza prison, whose forbidding outline can be seen from the palace. Its inmates will be transferred "elsewhere".

Political power in Syria mirrors the People's Palace. The constitution states that "the Syrian republic is a democratic, socialist and people's republic", and then goes on to guarantee every form of individual and collective liberty; but most of those liberties have been suspended under the equally "legal" provisions of martial law.

The head of state is entitled to decree exceptional measures when "national unity or the security and independence of national territory, is seriously threatened". Syria is, of course, threatened from outside by Israel, and from within by "counter-revolutionaries" (the Muslim Brotherhood). Martial law, introduced exactly 20 years ago when the Ba'ath Party came to power, has been in force ever since. Hence the arbitrary, excessive and occasionally criminal nature of acts committed — "in the national interest".

The mass media are subject to a censorship so draconian it is comical. Foreign publications, the import of which has for the last year been government-controlled, are often banned for flimsy reasons. Freedom of expression has been virtually abolished, though the regime usually bears with criticism when it is made in private.

Intimidation is clearly thought to be a more effective weapon than downright terror.

New identity cards are issued to people only after they have undergone a thorough police investigation. Secret service-men (*mukhabarati*) are ubiquitous in the civil service, schools, universities, trade unions and political parties. Under martial law, the police are entitled to carry out preventive arrests and keep people in custody for indeterminate periods (during which, according to Amnesty International, they are frequently tortured and sometimes executed).

A very large number of people have been rounded up for questioning since the beginning of the year: according to one estimate, it runs to 2,000 or 3,000 suspects, almost all of them members of the Muslim Brotherhood, but with a sprinkling of Ba'athists, Nasrites and dissident Communists. The number of political prisoners has still not been established for certain, but it is rumoured to be between 5,000 and 10,000. And of course no one has forgotten the thousands of deaths caused by the ruthless crushing of the Hama uprising in February 1982.

It is true that the Muslim Brotherhood has given the government a number of arguments to justify its repressive measures. It has been waging an urban guerrilla war for the last seven years, and its bomb attacks, murders, and summary executions have resulted in the deaths of several thousand people, ranging from ordinary citizens to senior government and party officials, judges, teachers and loyalist sheikhs.

But it is equally true that the government has taken advantage of that state of affairs to beef up its security forces. The regular army, the "defence brigades" (headed by the president's brother, Rifaa Assad), General Ali Haydar's special units, the gendarmes, the militia set up by the Ba'ath Party, and the workers' farmers and students' unions have all combined forces to keep the country under a very tight rein.

It is impossible to travel anywhere in Syria without running into one or other of the above-mentioned forces. Uniformed or plain-clothes personnel brandishing machine guns stand guard in front of airports, government offices, radio and television buildings, universities, party headquarters, and the private homes of important members of the regime. On highways and city approaches, as well as in the centre of towns, they frisk and check the identity of anyone they please.

All this military surveillance goes hand in hand with political regimentation, plus a little democratic window-dressing. The

People's Council (parliament) and the governing coalition, the National Progressive Front, which includes the Ba'ath Party and four other parties, do no more than rubber-stamp decisions taken elsewhere. Only the Ba'ath Party is allowed to be active in the army and in schools, to have branches throughout the country, or to publish newspapers.

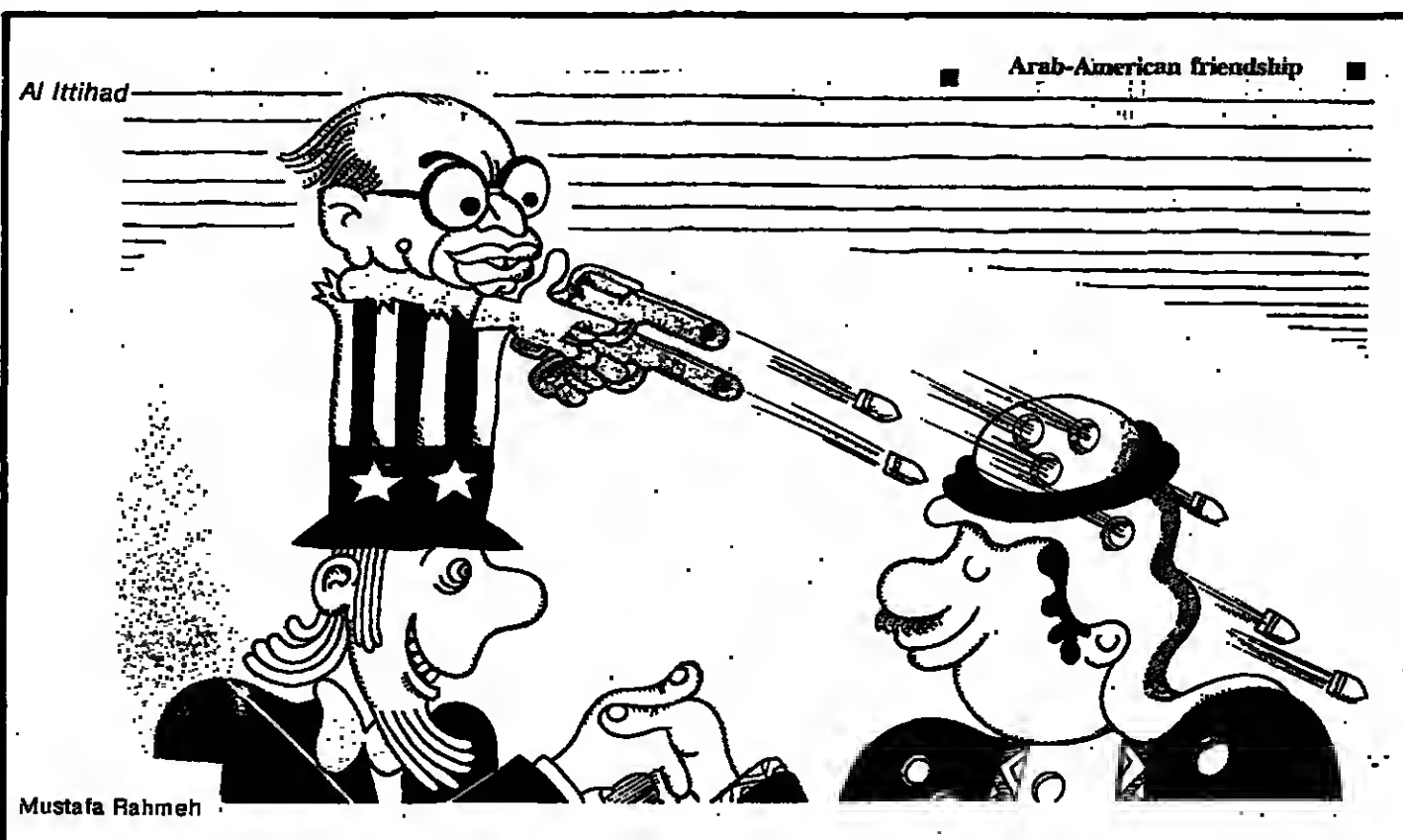
The other coalition parties have to content themselves with distributing their publications through unofficial channels, and criticising this or that minor aspect of domestic policy — any mention of foreign affairs is taboo. The Ba'ath Party's main coalition partner, the Syrian Communist Party, denounced the parasitical capitalism kept alive by the government and called for an "extension of liberties". Its outburst was characteristically rewarded two years ago: although the party got a total of 150,000 votes at the general elections, "chance" would have it that no Communist candidate succeeded in actually getting elected to parliament.

After striking in support of a petition that demanded the lifting of martial law and the reintroduction of civil liberties, certain professional associations (lawyers, engineers, doctors, chemists, and writers) were suddenly told in March 1980 that most of their leaders had been arrested. The associations in question were then placed under the supervision of the Ba'ath Party, which also controls workers' and farmers' unions as well as several students' and women's associations.

The most sophisticated feature of this whole process of bringing the population to heel is to be found in the Ba'ath Party's brand of "socialism". True, State control of the economy has had undeniably positive results. It has speeded up the process of development within the framework of national sovereignty, swept away the feudal classes and the big industrial tycoons (though their place has since been taken by a much more grasping "new bourgeoisie"), and provided numerous social benefits for the underprivileged classes.

President Assad is well and truly in the saddle. But the People's Palace he is building for himself will also belong very much to his generals.

— Le Monde



Moscow neutral over PLO dispute

By Mark Wood
Reuter

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union has refused to be drawn into the dispute within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and appears to be placing a priority on preserving its good ties with Syria.

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko told senior PLO official Farouk Kaddoumi the Kremlin was not prepared to take sides between the PLO's warring factions or to mediate with Damascus, according to informed Arab sources.

An official Soviet account of the meeting also stressed that Mr. Gromyko spent most of his time calling for unity within the Palestinian movement and insisting the PLO should sort out its own internal wrangles quickly and without bloodshed.

The cool reception given to Mr. Kaddoumi was meant as a signal to PLO Chief Yasser Arafat that Moscow was not prepared to bolster his weakened position. Western diplomats specialising in Middle Eastern affairs said.

It also showed that Moscow's overriding goal was to avoid any friction with Syria, its only major ally in the region, they said.

The visit by Mr. Kaddoumi, the PLO's "foreign minister", had originally been intended to prepare for talks in Moscow by Mr.

Arafat later in the week.

The PLO chief announced he was calling off the trip and Western and Middle Eastern diplomats in the Soviet capital said they believed his decision may have followed signals from Moscow that he has not welcome at this time.

PLO officials had made clear that Arafat planned to appeal to the Kremlin to put pressure on Syria so that it would soften its attitude towards him.

Syria expelled Mr. Arafat last month, and the PLO chief accused Damascus of fuelling the dispute within his Fatah organisation by backing his hardline opponents. He has since said he wants to patch up the quarrel with President Hafez Assad.

Soviet Leader Yuri Andropov sent messages of support to Mr. Arafat at the beginning of June after fighting broke out between PLO groups in Lebanon, but Western diplomats say they believe the Kremlin has since adopted a more neutral stand.

There was evidence of this in the report on the Gromyko-Kaddoumi talks by the official Tass news agency, which made no mention of Mr. Arafat by name in passages covering Soviet calls for a unified PLO.

The diplomats said there could be several reasons why Soviet leaders now wanted to keep Mr. Arafat at arm's length.

The Kremlin could feel his position was still not secure and would not want to be seen as siding with him too closely in case he was subsequently toppled, they said.

Most analysts believe Moscow would be relieved to see Mr. Arafat replaced by a more hardline leader.

The Soviet Union has strongly opposed U.S.-backed efforts to achieve a Middle East peace through separate agreements, and officials privately attacked Mr. Arafat's approach to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposals of Sept. 1.

Some Western analysts say that although Moscow resents Washington's enormous influence in the region, it believes direct U.S. involvement as negotiator and peacekeeper could one day backfire and that it is better to stay slightly aloof.

Moscow's formula for a Middle East settlement is that a general peace agreement should be drawn up at an international conference chaired by the United States and the Soviet Union, and that these two powers should subsequently act as guarantors.

Syria, which has received massive infusions of Soviet weaponry since last year's fighting in Lebanon, stands firmly behind this plan.

Most other Arab states are lukewarm, and states like Saudi Arabia are opposed to a settlement

which would give Moscow greater influence and a peacekeeping role.

Although Moscow's main attention in the Middle East has been focussed on Syria, there are signs the new leadership under President Andropov is attempting to broaden its influence.

Relations with Egypt, which plummeted when former President Anwar Sadat threw out Soviet advisers a decade ago, are now on the mend. Middle Eastern sources in Moscow said the Soviet Union was offering economic assistance on generous terms.

The sources said the Kremlin had also made new soundings on the chances of establishing diplomatic ties with Saudi Arabia.

In the past few days the Soviet media have also given strong endorsement to the Libyan-backed rebel forces attempting to overthrow the government in Chad.

Moscow is normally reticent to give open backing to forces challenging a recognised and legitimate government, and diplomats said its unusual behaviour over Chad suggested it was trying to gain favour with Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi.

"The present Soviet policy seems to be to get a few friends lined up so that they are ready to play a bigger role if the Americans fail completely in their peace-making attempts," one com-

Reagan does to Hinton what El Salvador's left, right failed to do

By Robert Block
Reuter

SAN SALVADOR — Washington's outspoken Ambassador Deane Hinton has left his post in El Salvador after two years, denying charges from both extreme right and left that he was dictating policy to the Salvadoran government.

Mr. Hinton left El Salvador on Friday in a general reshuffle of President Reagan's team of Central American advisers. As ambassador he had presided over an unprecedented growth in U.S. aid, influence and military involvement in Latin America.

He took up the post in June 1981, when El Salvador's leftist guerrillas were gaining strength in the civil war which had broken out nearly 18 months before.

The country's armed forces were plagued by inefficiency and infighting and annual U.S. aid was less than \$75 million.

Since then, the army has become more efficient and U.S. military and economic aid to El Salvador this fiscal year was \$531.6 million, political and diplomatic sources said.

They said pressure which Mr. Hinton put on the Salvadoran government and military was an important factor in the changes. But many Salvadorans began to grumble that Mr. Hinton's influence was too great.

He was handing out political orders rather than advising the Salvadoran government and army, they complained.

Criticism mounted after he made a speech here last October in which he attacked the country's legal system and human rights record and said that rightist "guerrillas" were as much a menace to stability as rebels on the left.

The civil war has so far killed about 42,000 people.

Mr. Hinton had denied he was acting as an American "protector". In his final speech as ambassador before the American Chamber of Commerce last week he said his greatest frustration was his failure to "see justice done" to the killers of his fellow citizens, referring to the murder in El Salvador of four U.S. churchwomen and two American agricultural advisers.

He condemned the government's failure to eliminate what he termed "extra-legal" violence.

U.S. officials say the 60-

year-old envoy has been reprimanded by the administration for his outspokenness and that this was one of the reasons for his removal as ambassador.

But Albert Schaufelberger, the U.S. military adviser shot dead by guerrillas in May, told reporters shortly before his death: "I don't think there is anyone in the United States government who has a greater grasp of the realities of El Salvador (than Hinton). I think it would be a mistake to change horses now."

In his speech before the American Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Hinton warned the Reagan administration against trying to impose U.S. standards on El Salvador.

Mr. Reagan has said a leftist victory in El Salvador, or anywhere in Central America, could threaten U.S. security.

Mr. Hinton said: "We North Americans could make no bigger mistake than to think of El Salvador as just a Spanish-speaking equivalent of our own country."

"We will fail if we simply try to impose our standards without at least trying to adapt them to markedly different circumstances. Yet the tendency to do so is at times almost irresistible."

He was chosen by President Reagan to replace President Carter's ambassador to El Salvador, Robert White. Officials say the Reagan administration considered Mr. White was weak.

Mr. Hinton came to be seen by many here as the U.S. bearer of the Reagan administration's hard-line anti-Communist policy. But after a time his views and statements seemed to clash with those of Washington.

"He did not get soft, he got wise," said a political analyst at a Salvadoran university.

He said Mr. Hinton came to the conclusion that the real problem of the country is the extreme right and that as long as it exists so will the left.

American officials here and in Washington have said Mr. Hinton was removed under pressure from U.S. Security Adviser William Clark and Ambassador to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick.

These increasingly influential advisers to Mr. Reagan wanted someone in El Salvador whose views would comply easily with those of the White House, the officials said.

The man chosen to replace Mr. Hinton is Thomas Pickering, a former ambassador to Nigeria.

'Look back to Hiroshima before using nuclear weapons,' warns ICRC

Right, is the dramatic telegram account of the scene which confronted a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross on his arrival in Hiroshima after the dropping of the first atomic bomb on Aug. 6, 1945.

Thirty-eight years later larger and much more horrific weapons have been built and stockpiled in arsenals around the world, so that any future nuclear attack would have even more terrifying consequences.

Conventional warfare, itself an assault on human values and rightly condemned since 1945 by the United Nations Charter, still provides the opportunity for discrimination between combatants and non-combatants: in comparison with nuclear conflict in which widespread extermination would probably be inevitable.

Successive International Red Cross Conferences have condemned weapons of mass destruction, and the ICRC in a letter

to National Societies less than a month after Hiroshima warned that any future use of such weapons would irresistibly lead to unlimited destruction.

On the arms issue, the ICRC comes down unequivocally in favour of general and complete disarmament, as it demonstrated in its support for this universally accepted aim at the First Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament in 1978. The ICRC requested that states establish the atmosphere of confidence and security that would allow the deadlock to be broken and an agreement on disarmament reached above particular interests.

However, because of its completely neutral status, direct participation by the ICRC in negotiations to achieve the dismantlement of weapons of mass destruction is impossible. Such an involvement would require the institution to induce states to take

steps they themselves do not view as appropriate. And if the ICRC's view happens to be contrary to even one state, it leaves itself open to the charge of taking sides.

For example, there are those who believe that a general and immediate nuclear disarmament is no longer possible, or that progress could be made only gradually by way of a freeze followed by mutual or unilateral reduction.

Some states believe mutual disarmament without an effective monitoring process would represent an even greater threat to peace.

Countries basing their defence policy on the nuclear deterrent claim the destruction of nuclear weapons would put them at a disadvantage with their potential adversaries holding a superiority in classical weapons.

Therefore, because of the importance of the issue to the security of states, only these states themselves can make proposals about

the dismantlement of their nuclear arsenals, and the role of the ICRC is restricted to upholding the humanitarian necessity of nuclear disarmament being achieved, leaving the technical and political aspects of the issue to the states responsible.

The ICRC's main concern in regard to nuclear weapons is that they are indiscriminate. One of the essential principles of international humanitarian law is the necessary distinction between civilians and combatants, which is the reason why the Red Cross has

always expressed its pre-occupation with the existence of weapons of mass destruction.

Legal arguments

This law, namely in the 1907 Hague Convention, affirms that combatants do not have an unlimited right to choose any means of injuring the enemy. This principle, which was reaffirmed in 1977 in Protocol I additional to the Geneva Conventions, contains both the prohibition of superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering and the prohibition of ind-

iscriminate means and methods of warfare.

While there was a broad agreement at the Diplomatic Conference which drafted Protocol I that neither the Conference nor the Protocol itself would tackle the matter of nuclear, bacteriological or chemical weapons, there was a consensus that the pre-existing general principles were still valid and would remain so for these weapons.

Over and above these legal arguments, it remains a fact that the suffering and destruction inflicted by a nuclear conflict could never comply with the most basic humanitarian requirements.

Moreover, survivors of a nuclear attack would be denied any proper medical treatment. Several studies have been made on this subject and recently a committee of experts presented a document to the World Health Assembly in Geneva putting forth the grim assessment that the chances of vic-

tims of a nuclear strike receiving any medical attention at all are "next to nil". According to the experts: "Even with the resources existing in normal or optimal conditions, the health services would be inadequate to deal with the casualties from a nuclear war."

Escalation

And more ominously, in calculating the consequences of three hypothetical situations, the experts warn that "the probability is very high that if nuclear weapons are employed in combat, there would be a rapid escalation to a full-scale war in which most of the weapons in the nuclear arsenals would be employed."

Faced with this ever growing threat to mankind, the Red Cross movement is committed more than ever before to promoting the cause of disarmament, but within its own sphere of competence. Its programme of action for

peace, adopted in Bucharest in 1977, is based on the promotion of activities through which men, women and children throughout the world may act to relieve human suffering both at home and abroad.

The ICRC, in particular, is working indirectly for peace through its worldwide relief and protection activities, guided by its principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality. It also contributes to the process by its efforts to have international humanitarian law applied in all circumstances.

It appears certain that in the event of a nuclear war, there would be no limits to destruction and suffering, and the whole concept of international humanitarian law would be called into question. The terrible threat of annihilation in a nuclear holocaust leaves us with no other choice but to seek peaceful co-existence.

— ICRC

Memories of Hiroshima

Situation horrifying... Ninety per cent of town razed... All hospitals destroyed or severely damaged... Have visited two provisional hospitals: Conditions indescribable... Bomb effects mysterious... Many victims apparently recovering suddenly experience fatal relapse... Deaths still occurring in great numbers. More than 100,000 victims still in provisional hospitals...

Antarctica may become international issue

By Lee Kimball

WASHINGTON — The future of Antarctica, which is half as big again as the United States and may contain rich reserves of oil and other minerals, could mushroom into a big international issue over the next few months.

While minerals experts from the 14 predominantly wealthy Antarctic Treaty powers, who have governed the frozen continent for the past 20 years, prepared to meet behind closed doors in West Germany, Malaysian diplomats were busy collecting signatures from other Third World governments demanding that the issue be openly debated in the U.N. General Assembly, which convenes in September.

In March, the non-aligned states, meeting under Mrs. Gandhi's presidency in New Delhi, called on the U.N. to undertake a comprehensive study of Antarctica... with a view to widening international cooperation in the area.

This initiative has already persuaded the 14 treaty powers to throw open their next full-scale biennial conference, due in Canberra, Australia in September, to a further 13 governments which have acceded to the treaty but are not yet full consultative members. The newcomers, given observer status, include Brazil, Papua New Guinea and China from the South, as well as Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands and Spain from the North.

The 14 consultative Antarctic Treaty powers, which now take all

decisions about the continent's future, are widely known as the Antarctic Club. Seven of them have territorial claims on the polar continent: France, Australia, Norway and New Zealand all accept one another's claims, while those of the U.K., Chile and Argentina conflict. Another seven, which include the USA and USSR as well as West Germany, Japan, Poland, South Africa and Belgium, have no claims and do not accept anyone else's.

This year's meetings will test as never before the strength and adaptability of the 1959 treaty, which has for over two decades kept Antarctica more-or-less demilitarised, pollution-free and dedicated to scientific research. But there have been increasing criticisms of the Antarctic Treaty practice of conducting all its business behind a veil of secrecy.

Environment groups in particular have challenged the treaty powers to publicly defend their record as custodians of Antarctica's unique environment, which makes a vital contribution to global ecosystems.

While the attendance in September of 13 new delegations may well mark a traumatic change for the treaty powers, others may well ask: "So what?" All the critical decisions with respect to the closed doors. The 14 consultative powers are still hurrying ahead to complete a separate series of negotiations on arrangements to regulate any mineral exploitation which the treaty powers consider acceptable. If they succeed, their agreement is likely to be pre-

sented to the rest of the world as a fait accompli.

The invitation to the 13 "second-class" treaty members (Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, East Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Romania and Uruguay) to attend the biennial conference for the first time represents the opening manoeuvre in an intricate game of diplomatic chess likely to be played out over the next few years.

Antarctica is no newcomer to the international agenda. India, Sri Lanka and Peru have all raised the issue in recent years, but it has been largely ignored pending the conclusion of the 1982 Law of the Sea convention. Malaysia's new initiative raises the possibility of applying the "common heritage of mankind" concept to Antarctica's mineral resources, which might then be exploited along the lines of the deal worked out for seabed minerals.

But the consultative treaty powers have in the past always resisted any attempt to intrude on their role as self-appointed custodians of Antarctica. And there is a growing suspicion among Third World governments that they are scheming to appropriate for themselves Antarctica's mineral wealth — if it exists. Even if it is there, experts believe it could not be commercially exploited until well after the turn of the century.

Each side is now considering its next move. The consultative powers meet in Bonn in the third session of the minerals negotiations. Their twelfth biennial conference

will take place in Canberra, 13-27 September.

The treaty powers have their internal differences — the Falklands/Malvinas war between the U.K. and Argentina is only the latest example. But this unlikely grouping of superpower and colonial states, plus two Third World nations and South Africa, has shown a remarkable ability over the years to close ranks against outside interference.

Meanwhile, Malaysia is gathering Third World signatures before the 12 August deadline for putting Antarctica on the agenda of the U.N. General Assembly, which opens in New York on 20 September. If the treaty powers show a willingness to inform U.N. negotiations about progress in their minerals negotiations, this may help dispel suspicions about their intentions. The way the 13 observer nations are treated by the Antarctic Club in Canberra will affect further efforts to open up the system.

The Third World itself is by no means united on Antarctica. Chile and Argentina are full members of the club and have strongly-held territorial claims. Their influence has in the past helped stop other Latin American states from pressing for change. But Brazil, Uruguay and Peru are now among the 13 countries going to Canberra as observers.

China acceded to the treaty in June. The Chinese have participated in expeditions with other treaty nations.

— Earthscan feature

The 'spit and tell' guide to fertility

John Collier recounts the accidental discovery of a remarkable new method of birth control that satisfies religious and other objections to the pill and intra uterine devices.

PERTH, Western Australia — Nature, it seems, has its own codes when signalling fertility, but finding them and interpreting them is not easy. In the case of a remarkable discovery made by Dr. Peter Hartmann and post-graduate student Colin Prosser, it was entirely accidental.

It was 1980 and 22-year-old Colin was beginning his studies for a Ph.D. in the Department of Bio-Chemistry at the University of Western Australia (UWA) and assisting Dr. Hartmann in his long-term study of the composition of breast milk. Dr. Hartmann's research to that point had led him to conclude that there was an element which caused chemical changes in the milk. He was aiming to isolate and identify it.

It was not exactly a new field of research, but Dr. Hartmann had decided to go into it in the greatest possible detail. "We were greatly helped by the fact that mothers in Western Australia continue breast-feeding their babies for much longer than anywhere else in

the Western World," he said.

Analysis of samples, compilation of figures and evaluation of the results — all had to take their turn in the busy teaching schedule of Dr. Hartmann and the demanding study programme of Colin Prosser.

A turning point in the research came when they were evaluating the figures from one intensive sampling period. They had taken breast milk samples from six nursing mothers seven times a day for 30 days.

Mr. Prosser noticed that glucose levels in the breast milk dropped dramatically five days before and six days after the donor's ovulation.

"Saliva is secreted in much the same way as milk, so I then took samples of that and analysed them. I was astonished to find that the glucose levels changed at exactly the same time, but in the opposite direction," said Mr. Prosser. Excitement in the laboratory grew as he and Dr. Hartmann checked and rechecked their cal-

culation. Then they tested the saliva of women who were not breast-feeding and the glucose level graphs they drew from the results showed exactly the same spectacular peaks.

They had found and interpreted one of nature's fertility codes. Later, they found that a reagent used by diabetics for monitoring their blood glucose levels, although needing to be more sensitive, was suitable. The "spit and tell" method of birth control was making its debut.

The implications of the discovery were considerable: — It could help prevent pregnancy by alerting women to when it was necessary for a contraceptive method to be used, or intercourse to be avoided altogether.

— It could improve a woman's chances of becoming pregnant by indicating the best time to try for conception.

— It was simple enough — Saliva on a strip of card coated with a reagent to glucose effects a change of colour when the glucose level changes.

— It contained a safety factor offered by no other method — five days of warning of fertility peaks. (Sperm remains viable for three days after intercourse).

— It was entirely natural, thus overcoming all the religious and other objections to the Pill and other contraceptive devices.

Hartmann and Prosser's first paper on the findings was published in 1982 and in April this year Dr. Hartmann was one of only three scientists from outside the United States to be invited to address the prestigious Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology in Chicago.

Dr. Hartmann is a quietly-spoken and wryly humorous man not given to hyperbole, but even now he cannot suppress the jubilation in his tones when he recalls the buzz of excitement when he told the Chicago meeting about "spit and tell".

Colin Prosser has completed his studies at UWA and on June 25 presented his dissertation for his doctorate. He leaves Perth in August to take up a research post at the National Institute of Health in Washington D.C.

His name will continue to be linked with the discovery, and he will have a share in the equity as the "spit and tell" birth control method is commercially exploited by a manufacturing company in Perth.

Dr. Hartmann too will have a share in that equity, but will continue to teach students in the Department of Bio-Chemistry. And the original aim of his research project remains — to find the element which causes the chemical changes in breast milk.

— Financial Times news feature

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SPORTS

Fencing championships expected to be East-West contest

VIENNA (R) — The strong Soviet Union and Hungarian squads are expected to face spirited challenges from Italy and France at the 3rd World Fencing Championships opening on Thursday.

Despite a record entry of around 500 competitors from some 40 countries, many with an eye on the 1984 Olympic Games, contests for the eight titles at stake are likely to be fought mainly between these four.

The Soviet Union, who took four golds in Rome last year, will rely on their tried and trusted line-up.

Alexander Romankov will defend the men's foil title he has won four times, and he will again partner Yuri Likov and Vladimir Aptisuri in the foil team event, also a Soviet triumph last year.

Viktor Kropovuskov will seek to retain the sabre world crown, while Naila Gilyasova defends her women's foil title.

The strongest challenger to Romankov is likely to be Italy's

Mario Numa, who reached the final last year. But any one of three French fencers who have shown good form this year — Pascal Jolyot, Frederic Pictruschka and A. Pezzini — could cause an upset.

Italy's women, who won the foil team event last year, also look best placed to produce a rival capable of toppling Gilyasova in the individual tournament, particularly Dorina Vaccaroni.

Vernique Brouquier of France is also in with a chance while East German Manly Nicklaus, a bronze medallist in Rome, should not be discounted.

Hungary, who won the sabre team title in Rome, will be bidding strongly to wrest the individual crown in this discipline from Kropovuskov. Imre Gedoevari, third last year, leads their challenge, but Pal Gerevich is missing from the team.

Bulgaria's V. Etropolski, present leader of this season's world sabre standings, is also fancied and there may be an additional threat from Italian and Polish fencers.

Hungarian Jenoc Pap's defence of the epee title is eased by the absence through illness of his French opponent in last year's final, Philippe Riboud. The main threat in Vienna is likely to come from Alexander Vlaschayev of the Soviet Union, and West Germany's Elmar Bormann.

Hungarian team coach Gyozo Kulcsar said he regarded Bormann as favourite to win the men's epee. But he hoped for a medal for Hungary in the team competition, although there would be strong opposition from France, last year's winner, West Germany, Italy and the Soviet Union.

The championships begin with elimination contests in the men's foil individual tournament Thursday. The finals follow on Friday.

Eliminations and finals for the women's foil individual title are on Friday and Saturday, with corresponding events for the sabre and epee individual crowns, and team competitions in all three disciplines on succeeding days.

Decker at top in U.S. women's athletics for 10 years

LOS ANGELES (R) — She has been one of America's leading women's distance runners since she was a 14-year-old with pigtailed tied with ribbons and braces on her teeth.

Now Mary Decker-Tabb is a mature 24. The pigtailed have been cut, the braces removed, and she is a world record holder and one of the best U.S. hopes for gold at next month's World Championships and next year's Olympics.

Last year she was top U.S. woman runner at six distances and set seven world records, three outdoor and four indoor. She was clear choice as America's woman athlete of the year, but she has never won an Olympic medal or a World Cup title.

Records change hands fast and the only outdoor mark still in her possession is her 5,000 metres time of 15 minutes 8.26 seconds, set in June 1982 in Eugene, Oregon.

When she was younger Decker concentrated on the 800 and 1,500 metres. She still runs those distances but in recent years has focused on longer events — 3,000, 5,000 and 10,000 metres.

She will run in the 3,000 metres at the Helsinki World Championships. But at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics the longest

women's race, apart from the marathon, is the 1,500 metres.

Decker's lack of international success made a triumph last month in a U.S.-East Germany match particularly pleasing, all the more so as it occurred on the New Olympic track at the Los Angeles Coliseum where the 1984 medals will be contested.

She was matched against East German Christine Wartenberg in the 1,500 metres and maintained a slight lead for the first three laps. With 300 metres to go, Wartenberg made her move but Decker refused to let her pass and won in 3:59.93, just half a second outside her American record. Wartenberg was second in 4:01.29.

Admittedly, neither Decker nor Wartenberg was in the top 10 over 1,500 metres last year, and competition will be tougher in Helsinki and Los Angeles.

Decker said the win was a confidence-booster. "Coming down the last 50 yards (metres) I tried to visualise how it will be next year," she said.

"I want to store it all up — the people cheering, the way I had run a smart race and how really good it was to take on good people and win."

Last year Decker was best in the world at 5,000 and 10,000 metres. As well as setting the 5,000 metres

world record she has run the second fastest 10,000 metres, clocking 31:35.30.

But in Los Angeles she will be unable to run these events because there is no race distance between the 1,500 metres and the marathon.

Decker has had to miss parts of many seasons because of a series of injuries to ankle, calf, shin, ligaments and muscles. In 1980 she suffered a painful achilles tendon tear which needed surgery and kept her out for a year.

This year she has had the additional problem of separation from her husband, marathon runner Ron Tabb.

Many were quick to predict stardom for Mary Decker when she burst on the track scene as a teenager in the early 1970s. They thought she would find success at the Montreal Olympics in 1976, but she was not around when the medals were handed out.

Four years later she missed another Olympic chance because the U.S. boycotted the Moscow Games following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

So, Decker still awaits the international medal success which has eluded her. It could come in Helsinki next month, if not in Los Angeles next year.

Cruz carries South American flag

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Joaquim Cruz has run a long way since the days when he was a humble shoe-shine boy near Brasilia.

At the Helsinki World Athletics Championships next month he will be carrying the best medal hopes not just of Brazil, but of the whole of South America.

But he will need to show a clean pair of heels to a highly talented 800 metres field, including British world record holder Sebastian Coe, before he can use his brushes to polish a gold medal.

Cruz, 20, holds the Brazilian and South American record of one minute 44.03 seconds, more than a second faster than Steve Ovett's gold-winning time at the 1981 Moscow Olympics but well outside Coe's world record 1:41.73.

Yet Cruz has yet to fulfil his promise in top-flight international competition and finished a dis-

appointing sixth in the World Cup in Rome two years ago.

His World Championship chances have also been hampered by a leg injury which kept him out of action for six months until March this year.

Cruz has had to shoulder his nation's athletic hopes since a car crash near Sao Paulo a year and a half ago shattered the right leg and career of triple jumper Joao Carlos de Oliveira.

Oliveira had won three World Cup gold medals and two Olympic bronzes, and the world triple jump record of 17.84 metres he set in 1975 still stands. He spent nearly 11 months in hospital and lost his right leg below the knee.

Cruz was a poor boy from the Brasilia satellite town of Taguatinga and as a child worked as a street-seller as well as shining shoes.

Tall and thin, he played basketball for the Brasilia junior team before being persuaded a switch to athletics where he soon made his mark with a variety of Brazilian and South American records at 400, 800 and 1,500 metres.

His right leg is two centimetres shorter than the left but this did not stop him winning the 400 and 800 metres at the 1981 World Student Games in Italy.

The following year he was snapped up by a U.S. university. He

was sponsored by a soft drinks company and studied physical education first at Brigham Young University in Utah and then at Oregon University.

"It's difficult to foresee a future in athletics here," he said after setting his South American record. "After all this is the country of football. The Brazilian athlete doesn't get the support to develop his potential."

Cruz, a shy and modest young man, has yet to make his mark at world level. But he limbered up in style two days ago with a win over experienced American James Robinson in Nice, France. In a race in which European Champion Hans-Peter Ferner of West Germany could finish only sixth, Cruz was a fast 1:44.31.

Cruz, who is well-known and respected by his rivals, could end up acting unwittingly as a decoy in Helsinki, distracting attention from a powerful but unknown competitor.

According to some Brazilian sports writers, Jose Barbosa da Silva from Sao Paulo state could be the surprise of the event.

"I reckon he could even come in ahead of Joaquim. He's thinner, taller, he has a bigger stride," Claudio Mello e Souza, sports editor of the O Globo newspaper said.

THE Daily Crossword by Madeline Miller

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CROSS	SEIDONE	SMITH	
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SNOW	BODITH	TOD	
ACNE	ADORE	ERIE	
DEER	NADER	OLE	

WORLD

Reagan picks C. American crew

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has named 11 members of a bipartisan commission that will advise him on long-term policies in Central America with the aim of ending congressional resistance to increased military aid for Washington's allies in the area.

The members of the commission, to be headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, were named Tuesday as U.S. officials prepared for joint military exercises in the region to demonstrate support for friendly countries there.

The role of the new study group is to recommend policies encouraging social, economic and democratic progress in Central America as well as reviewing ext-

ernal threats to the area's stability and security.

Mr. Reagan, who said the Soviet Union and Cuba were building a war machine in Nicaragua, formed the group to try to broaden support in congress for his controversial Latin policies, including increased military aid to El Salvador and help for anti-Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua.

As the Nicaraguan government celebrated its fourth anniversary

Tuesday, United Nations ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick called on Nicaraguans to overturn the Sandinista regime of "violence and deception".

But the House of Representatives, in a rare closed session, debated cutting off U.S. aid to anti-Sandinista forces. Members remained deeply divided, congressional sources said Tuesday night.

The Defence Department also announced that an eight-ship battle group had been diverted from a planned cruise to the Indian Ocean and sent to the Pacific Coast of Central America where it would remain in international waters during U.S. military exercises in Honduras planned for next month.

U.S. officials said the air, land and sea manoeuvres were designed to reinforce the Reagan administration's concern over Soviet, Cuban and Nicaraguan "aggression" in Central America.

"They will be a demonstration of U.S. resolve... we wish to make it quite clear we are not going to turn our backs and walk away," one official said.

Mr. Reagan's commission includes Robert Strauss, Middle East negotiator and special trade representative in President Carter's administration; Lane Kirkland, leader of the AFL-CIO labour movement; former Texas Governor William Clements and retired Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart.

Accused pleads not guilty to murder of Vicki Morgan

LOS ANGELES (R) — An unemployed clerk, Marvin Panoast, Tuesday night pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to the murder of ex-actress Vicki Morgan, who has been named in the so-called sex films saga.

Panoast, 33, informally dressed and looking down at the floor, quietly pleaded not guilty and also not guilty by reason of insanity to murdering the 30-year-old Ms. Morgan.

If found guilty of Ms. Morgan's murder, he could be sentenced to up to 26 years imprisonment. If acquitted on the insanity plea, he could be held in custody in a psychiatric hospital.

Ms. Morgan was one of 11 people alleged by lawyer Robert Steinberg to have been involved in films of natural sex "as we know it" and of masochistic sex.

Mr. Steinberg said others in the films included two senior Reagan administration officials, a U.S. congressman, two prominent bus-

inessmen and later multimillionaire Alfred Bloomingdale, who was a member of President Reagan's so-called "kitchen cabinet" of advisers.

Ms. Morgan was found dead on July 8, apparently beaten to death with a baseball bat.

Mr. Steinberg later reported the films had been stolen. Police have recommended criminal action be taken against him for filing a false police report.

One of Panoast's lawyers, Arthur Barans, said Tuesday he had asked for increased police protection for his client. "Some people might be interested in not seeing him go to trial," Mr. Barans said.

In a packed magistrate's courtroom, another of Panoast's lawyers, Charles Mathews, said Tuesday he felt the fact the prosecutors had notified the press of the arraignment hearing could have jeopardised Panoast's right to a fair trial.

FBI gets it all wrong

MIAMI (R) — FBI agents thought they had their man when they announced a New York bank employee carried out the latest hijacking of a U.S. airliner to Cuba.

But the U.S. crime fighting organisation was still trying to work out Wednesday exactly who forced the pilot of an Eastern Airlines plane to fly to Havana — the suspect is named as "J.C. Montero" turned up for work as usual and said: "It wasn't me".

Red-faced FBI men found Mr. Montero working normally as a computer programmer when they went to the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York. "It was a complete error," a bank spokesman said, adding that Mr. Montero did not want to talk about the FBI's bungles.

The true identity of the hijacker of the Lockheed TriStar, the eighth U.S. airliner to be diverted to Cuba this year, remained a mystery.

The FBI stayed tight-lipped on how it came to name the wrong man.

But several of the 312 other passengers on the plane said the hijacker showed what looked like a Chase Manhattan identity card Tuesday when he passed a note to the crew saying he had a bomb in his briefcase, according to the FBI.

Pilots catnap over Atlantic

LONDON (R) — The pilots of an airliner fell asleep for 20 minutes over the Atlantic until they were woken by a warning bell, according to a British aviation study.

It was one of three cases of catnapping at the controls reported confidentially to the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine in a study of human factors in flying safety.

The airliner had slowly accelerated, activating a warning bell that wakened the two pilots.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Legionnaires' disease kills Spanish colonel

MADRID (R) — Spanish military authorities said one of several high-ranking army officers killed by a mystery illness was suffering from legionnaires' disease. The authorities issued a communique saying tests here on tissue and serum samples taken from a dead Civil Guard colonel and four other sick soldiers revealed traces of the rare virus. Legionnaires' disease is a flu-like ailment which got its name after it broke out at a 1976 convention of the American Legion in Philadelphia, killing 29.

Dinosaur find hailed as great

LONDON (R) — The discovery of a skeleton of an unknown species of dinosaur in southern England has been hailed by scientists as possibly the most important find in Britain this century. A spokesman for London's Natural History Museum said the traces of a large, flesh-eating dinosaur with a massive foreclaw. It is at least 125 million years old. The claw bone was found by an amateur fossil collector in a clay pit south of London in January. A team from the museum then moved in and discovered the rest of the skeleton.

S. Africa bars Lesotho citizens

MASERU (R) — South Africa Wednesday closed its border to hundreds of Lesotho citizens. The travellers told reporters they had been turned back from several posts on the frontier between this mountain kingdom, which is surrounded by South Africa, when they tried to enter for business and shopping. They said they had been told by South African border officials that people from Lesotho could not be allowed to enter while the Maseru government harboured guerrillas of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), which is fighting white supremacy in the republic. They added they had been told to try again in one month's time.

Freed hostage has no fears

TORONTO (R) — A Canadian pilot taken hostage in the Sudan is keen to get back to work in East Africa despite his skirmish with death, Martin Overduin was held captive with four other foreign aid workers — two Americans, a West German and Dutchman — by Sudanese rebels for 15 days. They were freed early this month. Overduin, who has been flying medical personnel to remote areas of Africa for the past five years, said after returning to Canada to see his family that he was anxious to get back to flying.

Zimbabwe rebels raid gold mine

HARARE (R) — Anti-government rebels in southwestern Zimbabwe killed three people and wounded eight in a raid on a gold mine last Sunday, a mine spokesman said Wednesday. Mining industry sources in Harare said it was the second attack by rebels in a month on a large mine in the province of Matabeleland, where Prime Minister Robert Mugabe says dissident forces are fighting to destroy his government.

Salvador rebels launch surprise daylight raid

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Salvadoran leftist guerrillas evaded more than 500 government troops in a daylight raid on the town of Suchitoto in which they killed and injured 11 policemen, rebel radio broadcasts said.

The town last week celebrated its 125th anniversary with a visit by President Alvaro Magana and other government leaders.

The rebel raid came as more than 500 troops of the First Infantry Brigade and the crack U.S.-trained Atlacatl battalion were making an anti-guerrilla sweep of the area.

Chilean union chief freed

SANTIAGO (R) — Rodolfo Seguel, leader of Chile's copper workers and the protest movement against the military government of President Augusto Pinochet, was freed Tuesday night after more than a month in jail.

An appeals court confirmed a judge's decision Monday to release Mr. Seguel on bail of 5,000 pesos (\$65) and he left Santiago's main prison to cheers from more than 100 supporters.

"We will keep on fighting," he said.

Houston snubs Soviet mayors

HOUSTON (R) — Three Soviet mayors on a goodwill visit to Houston were denied permission Tuesday to visit one of the city's major tourist attractions, the Johnson Space Centre.

"The State Department turned them down flat," said Robbie Devries of the Houston-Baku sister city association which arranged the visit.

State Department spokeswoman Judy Jameson said Soviet officials were allowed to visit only 24 percent of the United States because the Kremlin restricts the movement of Americans to 21 percent of the Soviet Union.

"The mayors would have had no trouble visiting the space centre if they had turned up as regular tourists."

Tame dingo gets the blame

DARWIN, Australia (R) — Government lawyers are looking into claims that the baby daughter of Lindy Chamberlain was killed by a partly-tamed dingo (wild dog) and that the body was buried by strangers, an official spokesman said Wednesday.

Two friends of Mrs. Chamberlain, 35, who was sentenced to life imprisonment last April for murdering her daughter, have lodged what they say is proof that a semi-domesticated dingo took the baby and that several people helped to dispose of the body.

The claim was made by Australian businessmen Phil Ward and Don McNicholl, who like the Chamberlains are Seventh Day Adventists. Mr. McNicholl is a former policeman and now a lawyer.

British M.P.s vote to hike their own salaries

LONDON (R) — Britain's new House of Commons rebelled against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher early Wednesday and voted a series of substantial pay rises for its members.

Back-bench members of Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative Party spurned her appeal to hold back on a big increase in order to set an example to the nation and boost the government's austere economic policies.

Voting after a late sitting, they forced through a measure which will equate their salaries with those of senior civil servants now earning £18,500 (\$28,000).

That link will not take effect until 1988 — about the time this Parliament will probably be dissolved for another general election.

But when it does, it will mean a 27.5 per cent rise from the current £14,500 (\$22,000) a year and will, more or less automatically, protect the members' lifestyles from the effect of future inflation.

Meanwhile, members will get an immediate rise of 5.5 per cent and a series of further rises over the next four years.

An official study concluded this year that members of Parliament needed an immediate pay rise of 31 per cent to bring them into line with comparable people in industry, professions and the civil service.

But Mrs. Thatcher, hoping to hold down pay rises for government employees, suggested a single increase of four per cent.

In the crucial vote, the back-benchers had their way by a majority of just five.

The result is not technically considered a defeat for the government since it had not imposed the normal constraint of party-line voting on its supporters.

Study says U.S. Navy careless about radiation

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Navy ships have leaked radiation at least 37 times since they began using nuclear reactors, contaminating coastal and inshore waters off Japan, Britain and the United States on more than a dozen occasions, according to a report released Wednesday.

The report by the fund for constitutional government, a private research group, accused the U.S. Navy of "suppressing information about a 31-year-long history of radiation accidents and safety problems."

The navy says it has a perfect record of reactor safety.

But the study, citing Pentagon and congressional documents and published reports, concluded U.S. nuclear-powered submarines were responsible for "at least 13 accidental discharges of radioactive material in coastal waters."

Contamination occurred off the coasts of the United States, Japan and Britain among other places, it said.

Citing former Pentagon employees, it said the navy routinely dumps at sea the highly radioactive resins used as filters in nuclear reactors, despite its avowed policy of never throwing such materials overboard.

Among the incidents listed in the study, by investigative reporter David Kaplan, was one in Apra Harbour, Guam, in 1975, when a disabled submarine tender discharged highly radioactive reactor cooling water into the harbour.

Shortly afterwards, radiation levels in the water near two public beaches were measured at 51 times the allowable dose, a navy technician testified under oath.

Another incident took place in

the Thames River off New London, Connecticut, when 500 tons of radioactive water spilled during transfer from a submarine to a tender.

When the USS Swordfish docked off Japan in 1968, Japanese scientists detected radiation in the water up to 20 times higher than normal background levels, the report said.

The study also cites U.S. government reports which it says reveal serious radiation dangers on Soviet nuclear submarines, including exposure to radiation dangers on Soviet nuclear submarines, including exposure to radiation which has caused premature baldness, sterility and other problems among seamen.

Citing Danish intelligence sources, the study being published in the current issue of the magazine "Oceans" said many Soviet submariners have died due to radiation exposure.

According to a Pentagon document quoted in the study, the icebreaker Lenin, Moscow's first nuclear-powered ship, suffered a catastrophic radiation accident in 1966 and had to be abandoned for more than a year.

Navy Secretary John Lehman told reporters last year that "There have been some catastrophic health impairment incidents" in the Soviet nuclear navy. He said the Pentagon had monitored disabled Kremlin submarines being towed back to port with five kilometre tow lines because of radiation dangers.

The USS Nautilus, the United States' first nuclear submarine, is so radioactive that parts of it will be closed to the public when it is turned into a museum in the near future, the report said.

Factory accident affects Soviet nuclear energy plan

MOSCOW (R) — A new reactor factory crucial to the Soviet Union's nuclear energy programme has been hit by an accident, the newspaper Pravda said Wednesday.

The Communist Party daily gave few details of what happened at the Atomash plant in the southern town of Volgogradsk, but it made clear there had been a serious mishap which had caused damage and would delay the production programme.

The Atomash complex, originally due to be completed this year, is designed to turn out reactors and nuclear power station equipment vital to Soviet plans to boost atomic energy output.

Western energy experts in Moscow said it was not believed to have any atomic facilities of its own and that a nuclear accident was highly unlikely.

It said urgent measures were being taken at the plant to "straighten out the present conditions there" and "clear up the consequences of the mistakes which occurred".

The ruling politburo last week accused officials in charge of the plant of "gross violations of state discipline", an unusually harsh formulation of criticism.

The Kremlin also announced the formation of a state committee for safety in the nuclear power industry, a move which Western diplomats said was a sure sign there had been an accident at Atomash.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

MANLY

By Lee C. Jones

ACROSS

1 "— was saying"

4 Complacent

9 Mephisto

13 Vessel

17 End of spoon

18 Designer

20 Oscar de la —

21 Criticized

22 Shift of

23 Theater

24 Section

25 Shift of

26 Following

27 Tapestry town

28 Stratford's

29 stream

30 Antish town

31 Boston event

32 Drive

33 Tell's partner

34 Antinous

35 Journey

36 Down

1 "If you walk

down Piccadilly

2 Latin

3 Maple seed

4 "And pretty

5 Unhappy kin

6 Kitty starter

7 Phase

8 Meltdown

9 Shift for Hood

10 Tell

11 Lunar-solar

12 Turned to for

13 help

14 — to (moved,

15 naturally)

16 Confined

17 Try to cope

18 Finish with

19 27 Arms

20 — do well

21 28 Yield

22 36 Phizzer

23 Washday

24 Product

25 Stadium part

26 Pound or Stone

27 41 Dabber

28 Advocates

29 44 Becoming

30 Surfer Scot

31 River in

32 47 Appropriate

33 anagram for

34 noted

35 Implement for

36 48 Martham's man

37 49 Soot

38 50 Rel. book

39 51 Improve

40 each shining

41 hour

42 52 Stunted tree

43 53 Beckles

44 54 Fulbright

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55 65 comfortable

56 66 Bash

57 67 "Whist thou —

58 68 warm at home"

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60 70 Actual

61 71 "I could —

62 72 horse"

63 73 Corn —

64 74 105 Spoon

65 75 106 Dies —

66 76 107 Brood of

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